JC08 Rec'd PCT/PTO

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Josef LEHMKUHL et al.

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. [NEW]

Docket No. 2001-0574A

Filed May 10, 2001

PROCESS FOR PRODUCING CALCIUM COMPOUNDS CONTAINING WATER OF CRYSTALLIZATION

[Corresponding to PCT/EP98/07174 Filed November 10, 1998]

1-10-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution and to reduce PTO filing fees, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 17 without prejudice to the subject matter thereof and add the following claims in their place:

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- 18. (New) A process for producing calcium compounds containing water of crystallization, wherein
- a) by a chemical reaction between an aqueous alkaline solution of sodium aluminate and a solid or dissolved and suspended, respectively, calcium (hydr)oxide in the presence of carbon dioxide a precipitate of a mixture of calcium aluminatehydrates having the following modular formula is formed: